HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

THE ICE IS PERFECT FOR THE RACE, GRETEL... AND NO ONE SKATES AS WELL AS YOU!
BUT -- HOW CAN EITHER OF US COMPETE -- ON WOODEN SKATES?
DON'T WORRY, GRETEL... SOMEHOW WE WILL GET PROPER SKATES!
YOU CAN DO ANYTHING, HANS...
...AND WE WILL WIN THE RACE! AND THE SILVER SKATES!
HANS... GRETEL!
MAMA IS CALLING, GRETEL... WE MUST GO!
JOE KUBERT
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12/3

HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

HANS... GRETEL... COME HOME, CHILDREN!
IT'S MAMA, HANS...
PERHAPS PAPA IS WORSE.
JOE KUBERT 12/14
IS ANYTHING WRONG, MAMA? IS PAPA —
NO, NO, MY CHILD... HE IS ALL RIGHT! HE'S THE SAME...
...FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS!
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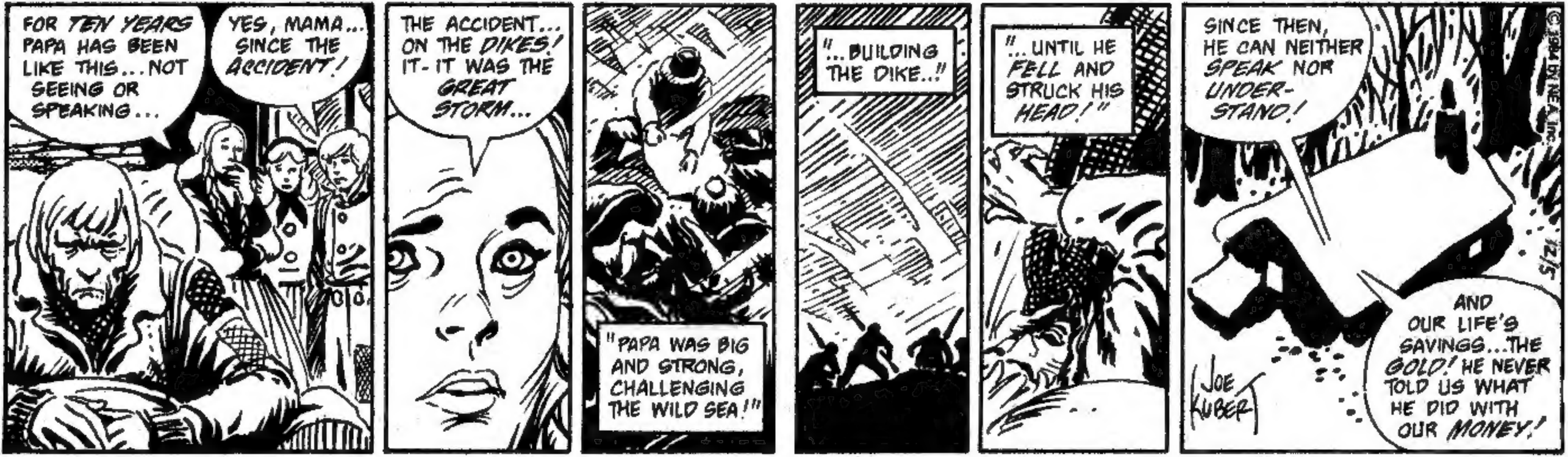
FOR TEN YEARS PAPA HAS BEEN LIKE THIS... NOT SEEING OR SPEAKING...
YES, MAMA... SINCE THE ACCIDENT!
THE ACCIDENT... ON THE DIKES! IT- IT WAS THE GREAT STORM...
"PAPA WAS BIG AND STRONG, CHALLENGING THE WILD SEA!"
"...BUILDING THE DIKE..!"
"...UNTIL HE FELL AND STRUCK HIS HEAD!"
SINCE THEN, HE CAN NEITHER SPEAK NOR UNDER-STAND!
AND OUR LIFE'S SAVINGS...THE GOLD! HE NEVER TOLD US WHAT HE DID WITH OUR MONEY!
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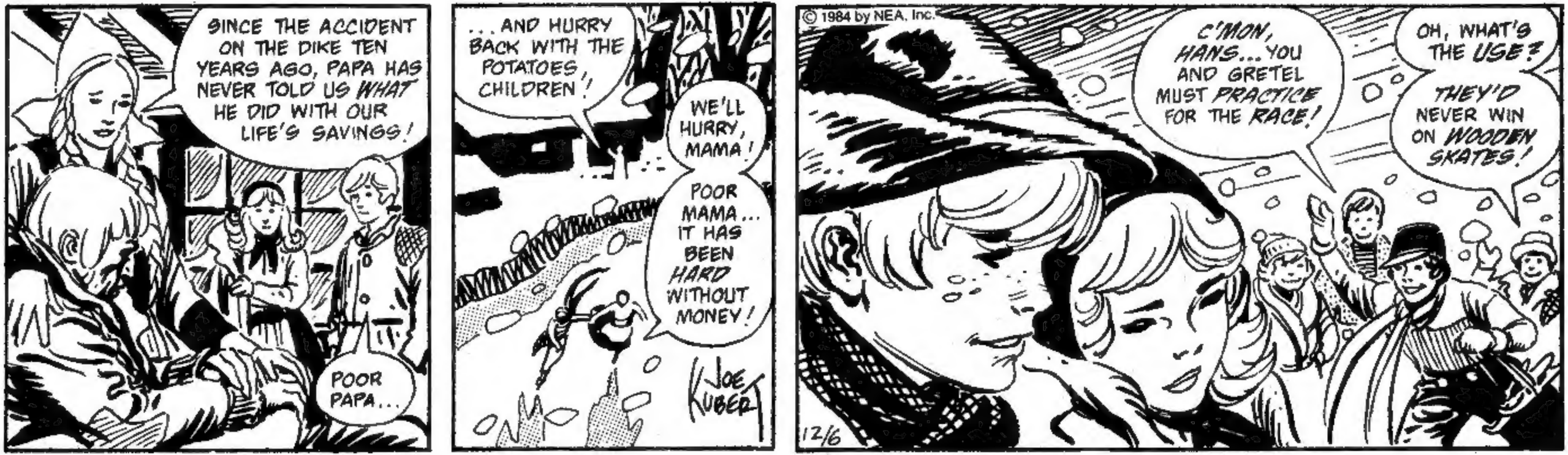
SINCE THE ACCIDENT ON THE DIKE TEN YEARS AGO, PAPA HAS NEVER TOLD US WHAT HE DID WITH OUR LIFE'S SAVINGS!
POOR PAPA...
...AND HURRY BACK WITH THE POTATOES, CHILDREN!
WE'LL HURRY, MAMA!
POOR MAMA... IT HAS BEEN HARD WITHOUT MONEY!
JOE KUBERT
© 1984 by NEA, Inc.
C'MON, HANS... YOU AND GRETEL MUST PRACTICE FOR THE RACE!
OH, WHAT'S THE USE? THEY'D NEVER WIN ON WOODEN SKATES!
12/6

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DON'T BOTHER PRACTICING, HANS AND GRETEL...
...YOU'LL NEVER WIN THE RACE FOR THE SILVER SKATES!
12/7
JOE KUBERT
NOT WITH THOSE WOODEN SKATES OF YOURS!
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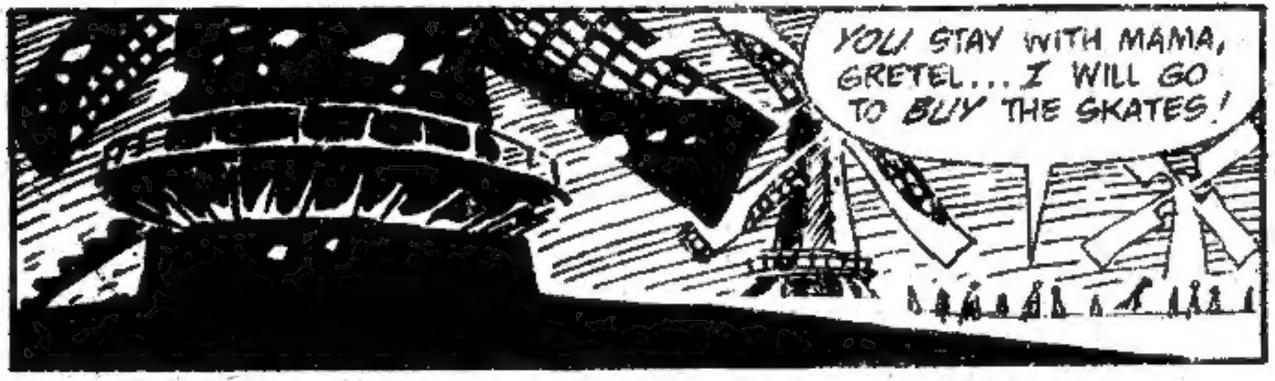
HANS...IF YOU CARVE ONE OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL WOOD CHAINS FOR ME... I WILL PAY YOU!
YOU ARE A GOOD FRIEND, PETER... BUT IT IS TOO MUCH MONEY!
NO, HANS, IT IS JUST ENOUGH... FOR TWO PAIRS OF SKATES! ONE FOR YOU... AND ONE FOR YOUR SISTER, GRETEL!

HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES

by The Joe Kubert School



HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

DOCTOR... I MUST SPEAK WITH YOU!
HANS BRINKER? WHAT IS IT, MY BOY?
...AND--AND YOU MUST TREAT MY SICK FATHER! HERE IS ALL THE MONEY I HAVE—
NO!
I KNOW HOW HARD IT HAS BEEN FOR YOUR FAMILY SINCE YOUR FATHER'S ILLNESS!
I WILL BE AT YOUR HOUSE LATER...
JOE KUBERT
LATER, HANS APPROACHES HIS HOME CARRYING HIS NEW SKATES...
HANS! AT LAST YOU ARE HOME!
12/10
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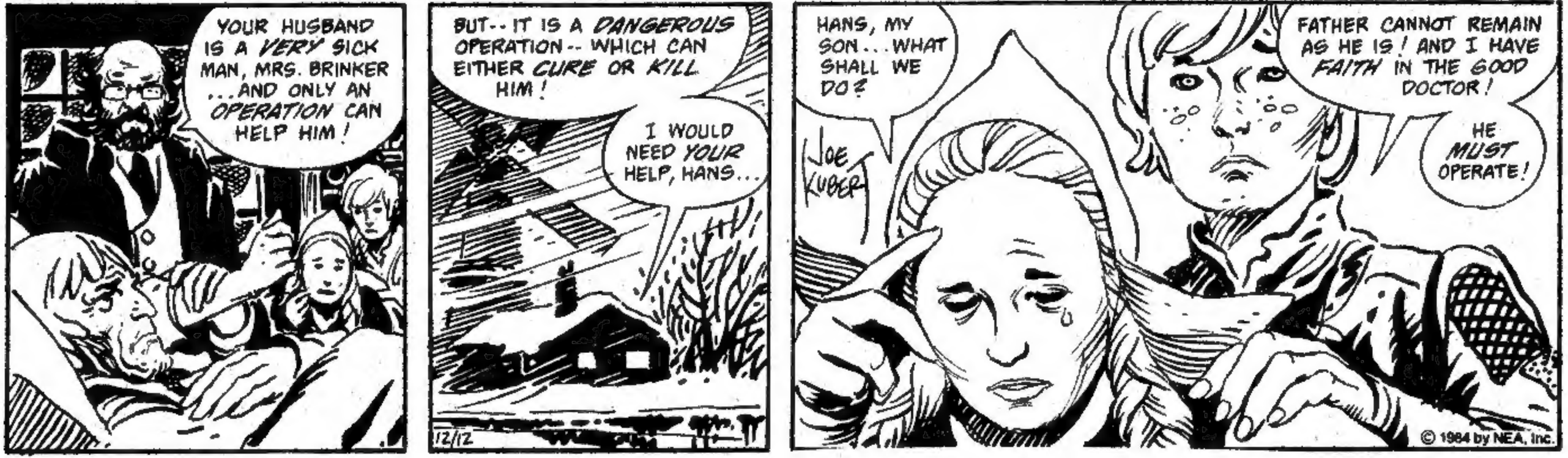
HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES

by The Joe Kubert School

I THINK YOUR FATHER IS FEELING WORSE, HANS!
OH, IF I ONLY HAD THE MONEY TO CARE FOR HIM PROPERLY...
IF PAPA COULD ONLY SPEAK...
JOE KUBERT
12/11
© 1984 by NEA, Inc.
...HE COULD TELL US WHERE HE PUT THE GOLD... OUR LIFE'S SAVINGS!
MY POOR HUSBAND... HAS BEEN IN THIS CONDITION ...FOR TEN YEARS!
I SAW THE DOCTOR... HE WILL BE HERE SOON, MAMA...

HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*


YOUR HUSBAND IS A VERY SICK MAN, MRS. BRINKER ...AND ONLY AN OPERATION CAN HELP HIM!
BUT-- IT IS A DANGEROUS OPERATION -- WHICH CAN EITHER CURE OR KILL HIM!
I WOULD NEED YOUR HELP, HANS...
12/12
HANS, MY SON...WHAT SHALL WE DO?
JOE KUBERT
FATHER CANNOT REMAIN AS HE IS! AND I HAVE FAITH IN THE GOOD DOCTOR!
HE MUST OPERATE!
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HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

EVERYTHING IS READY! I WILL BEGIN THE OPERATION!
HANS... STAND BY MY SIDE TO HELP ME!
YES, SIR...
JOE KUBERT
12/13
© 1984 by NEA, Inc.
THE OPERATION ...IS OVER!

HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

D-DOCTOR... WILL HE BE... ALL RIGHT?
YOU MAY ASK THAT OF YOUR HUSBAND YOURSELF, MRS. BRINKER!
I THINK THIS WILL BE A FINE CHRISTMAS FOR YOU ALL!
12/14
HE WILL NEED SPECIAL CARE UNTIL HE IS COMPLETELY WELL!
THANK YOU... AND BLESS YOU, DOCTOR!
JOE KUBERT
© 1984 by NEA, Inc
DO YOU MEAN ...TEN YEARS HAVE PASSED ...SINCE-?
YES, HUSBAND... BUT ONE QUESTION, MY DEAR...
CAN YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU DID WITH OUR LIFE'S SAVINGS?

HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

THE GOLD? OF COURSE I REMEMBER WHERE I PUT IT... FOR SAFEKEEPING! IT WAS JUST YESTERDAY...
NOT YESTER-DAY...BUT TEN YEARS AGO!
I BURIED THE MONEY... NEAR THE BASE OF THE BIG TREE... BEHIND THE HOUSE!
MINUTES LATER...
COME, HANS...THE GOLD MUST BE HERE!
OH, MAMA... SOON WE WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE PAPA ALL THE CARE HE NEEDS!
Y-YES, BUT-- WHERE IS THE GOLD?
HOURS LATER...
W-WE'VE DUG ALL AROUND! THERE'S... NOTHING!!
JOE KUBERT
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HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES

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HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES

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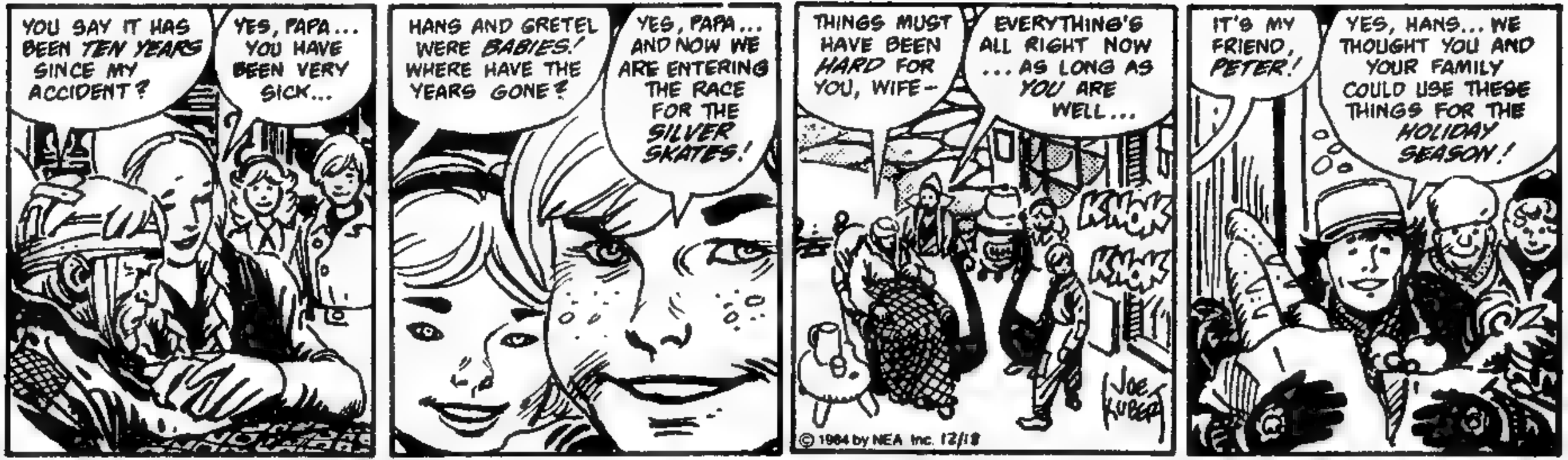
YOU SAY IT HAS BEEN TEN YEARS SINCE MY ACCIDENT?
YES, PAPA... YOU HAVE BEEN VERY SICK...
HANS AND GRETEL WERE BABIES! WHERE HAVE THE YEARS GONE?
YES, PAPA... AND NOW WE ARE ENTERING THE RACE FOR THE SILVER SKATES!
THINGS MUST HAVE BEEN HARD FOR YOU, WIFE-
EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT NOW ... AS LONG AS YOU ARE WELL...
KNOCK KNOCK
JOE KUBERT
© 1984 by NEA Inc. 12/18
IT'S MY FRIEND, PETER!
YES, HANS... WE THOUGHT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY COULD USE THESE THINGS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON!

HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

PAPA IS FEELING BETTER, BUT HE MUST HAVE MEDICINE!
I WILL SELL MY SKATES!
HI, HANS... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I MUST SELL MY SKATES, ANNIE... WE NEED THE MONEY!
JOE KUBERT
12/19
PLEASE DON'T LAUGH AT ME, HANS... BUT MAYBE MY LUCKY BUTTON CAN HELP!
IF YOU BURY IT, IT WILL TURN INTO WHATEVER YOU NEED!
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HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

A BUTTON? LITTLE ANNIE SAID TO BURY IT...
...AND IT WILL TURN INTO WHAT I NEED!
THAT NIGHT...
BURY A BUTTON!
I WON'T TELL MAMA OR GRETEL... THEY'LL THINK I'VE GONE CRAZY!
B-BUT... WHAT CAN I LOSE?
JOE KUBERT 12/20
© 1984 by NEA Inc
PAPA IS ASLEEP, GRETEL.. WHERE IS HANS?
I DON'T KNOW, MAMA.
MAMA-GRETEL! I...I FOUND IT!

HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES

by The Joe Kubert School

LITTLE ANNIE GAVE ME A BUTTON! I BURIED IT! AND-- IT'S A MIRACLE!
I DUG NEAR THE STUMP OF THE DEAD TREE! TEN YEARS AGO, IT WAS TALL AND ALIVE...
HANS! YOU FOUND OUR MONEY!
12/21
(c) 1984 by NEA, Inc.
THAT WAS WHERE PAPA SAID HE BURIED OUR MONEY! NEAR THE BIG TREE!
NOW WE CAN AFFORD THE MEDICINE FOR PAPA... AND YOU AND I CAN ENTER THE RACE FOR THE SILVER SKATES, GRETEL!
JOE KUBERT
OH, HANS, ... HOW WONDERFUL!

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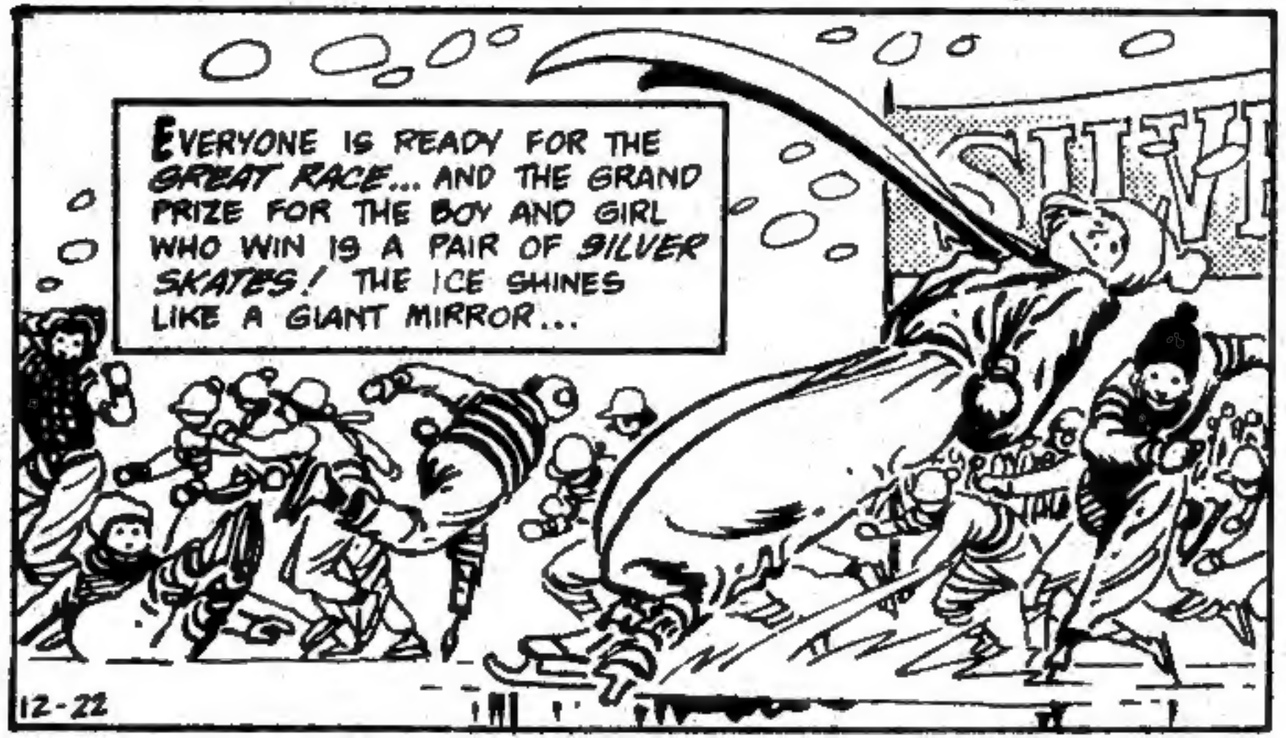
EVERYONE IS READY FOR THE GREAT RACE... AND THE GRAND PRIZE FOR THE BOY AND GIRL WHO WIN IS A PAIR OF SILVER SKATES! THE ICE SHINES LIKE A GIANT MIRROR...
12-22

HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

HERE, PETER... TAKE MY SKATE STRAP! I WILL NOT SKATE IN THE RACE!
BUT... WHY, HANS?
RACE
JOE KUBERT
WHEN MY FAMILY WAS IN TROUBLE, YOU HELPED! NOW IT IS MY TURN...
GO AHEAD AND WIN, PETER!
THANK YOU, HANS!
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THE BOYS AND GIRLS LINE UP... AND A WINNER WILL BE CHOSEN FROM EACH GROUP!
GOOD LUCK, GRETEL... I HOPE YOU WIN!
GOOD LUCK TO US BOTH, PETER!
12/24

HANS BRINKER or THE SILVER SKATES *by The Joe Kubert School*

FLASHING BLADES ETCH THE ICY SURFACE OF THE ZUIDER ZEE, SENDING A SHOWER OF SHIMMERING PARTICLES INTO THE AIR...
JOE KUBERT 12/25
© 1984 by NEA, Inc.
PETER AND GRETEL WIN THE RACE!
AND NONE IS HAPPIER THAN HANS BRINKER! THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS FILLS HIS HEART... FOR HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS!
The End